

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method ~~to identify female individuals at risk for developing preeclampsia associated with the magnesium binding defect~~ comprising: measuring the level of peptide in a sample of body fluid of a female ~~said~~ individual, wherein said peptide consists essentially of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, and comparing said level of peptide to a standard, wherein the standard represents the average level of said peptide in normal body fluid, and whereby a significantly lower level of said peptide in the sample correlates with a magnesium binding defect, and thereby indicates that said individual is at risk of developing preeclampsia associated with the magnesium binding defect.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of said peptide in said sample is measured by an immunological assay that can indicate the presence of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3 wherein said immunological assay utilizes a monoclonal antibody.

5. (CANCELED)

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3 wherein said immunological assay is an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, and said sample of body fluid is blood.

7.-18. (CANCELED)

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method ~~for monitoring progress in treatment of preeclampsia associate with the magnesium binding defect in a female individual~~, comprising:

- a. measuring the level of peptide in a sample of body fluid of a female ~~said~~ individual, wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting essentially

of: the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, ~~the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2~~, and the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4;

- b. treating preeclampsia in the individual,
- c. repeating step a, and
- d. comparing said level of peptide of step a, to the level of said peptide of step c,

wherein a lower than normal level of said peptide correlates with a magnesium binding defect, and whereby a significant increase in the level of said peptide after treatment is indicative of the progress of treatment of preeclampsia associated with the magnesium binding defect in said individual.

20.-35. (CANCELED)

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method ~~to identify female individuals at risk for developing preeclampsia associated with the magnesium binding defect~~, comprising: measuring the level of peptide in a sample of body fluid of a female ~~said~~ individual, wherein said peptide consists essentially of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4, and comparing said level of peptide to a standard, wherein the standard represents the average level of said peptide in normal body fluid, and whereby a significantly lower level of said peptide in the sample correlates with a magnesium binding defect and thereby indicates that said individual is at risk of developing preeclampsia associated with the magnesium binding defect.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 36 wherein the level of said peptide in said sample is measured by an immunological assay that can indicate the presence of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 37 wherein said immunological assay utilizes a monoclonal antibody.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 38 wherein said monoclonal antibody cross reacts with the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 ~~each of said~~ peptides.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 37 wherein said immunological assay is an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, and said sample of body fluid is blood.